CENTER FOR BUSINESS & PUBLIC POLICY

GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY McDonough School of Business

June 23, 2014

Ms. Marlene H. Dortch Secretary Federal Communications Commission 445 12th Street, SW Washington, DC 20554

RE: Protecting and Promoting the Open Internet, GN Docket 14-28; Preserving the Open Internet, GN Docket 09-191; Framework for Broadband Internet Service, GN Docket 10-127

Dear Ms. Dortch:

As the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) explores its legal options for ensuring that an Open Internet continues to thrive, I wanted to present you with a new Economic Policy Vignette I authored this week regarding the way in which Section 706 of the Communications Act provides a clear policy tool for regulators to establish Internet-related regulations under existing law. In this short treatment of a complex and important issue, I explain how Section 706's focus on increasing output nicely aligns the economic policy rationale for Internet-related regulations with the traditional, policy-proven antitrust tools that focus on the output altering effects of firm behavior. Section 706 provides regulators a basis for assuring that firm behavior promotes output such as deployment and expansion of Internet infrastructure while simultaneously enabling the FCC to take corrective action if a firm's behavior retards output.

In the hope that the insights in this paper may assist the Agency in its work, I respectfully submit it for your review and consideration.

Respectfully Submitted,

John W. Mayo

Professor of Economics, Business and Public Policy, Georgetown University and Executive Director of the Georgetown Center for Business and Public Policy